

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST
UNITED STATES AMERICA et al.

-vs-

YAMAZAKI Sadao et al

SWORN DEPOSITION

Deponent: YAMAZAKI, Iwao

Having first duly sworn an oath as on attached sheet
and in accordance with the procedure followed in my country
I hereby depose as follows.

1. I, YAMAZAKI, Iwao held various offices in the Ministry
of Home Affairs from 1919 to 1939. From January, 1939 to
July, 1939. I served as Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau
in the Home Ministry. From December, 1939 to October, 1940,
I served as Chief of Metropolitan Police. From October, 1940
to August, 1945 I held various positions such as Vice Minister
of Home Affairs and in the Civil Administration of Occupied
Territories. In August, 1945, I was appointed Minister of
Home Affairs, but resigned as Home Minister in October the
same year.

2. As Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau in the Home
Ministry, it was my responsibility to preserve law and order

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throughout Japan and it was part of my duties to try and prevent anticipated incidents from arising and in the event that they did occur to take necessary steps to subdue them. In order to accomplish this effectively, it was necessary that I keep myself well informed of various movements among the civilian populations and to ascertain the opinions and purposes of various groups. I constantly received reports from my subordinates in connection with these matters. While I was serving as Chief of the Police Affairs Bureau in the Home Ministry, the so-called July 5th incident occurred in July, 1940. From reports I received I ascertained that the July 5th incident was plotted by more than 30 members of a rightist reformist group, led by MAYEDA, Torao and KAGEYAMA, Masaharu in attempts to assassinate those whom they regarded as pro-American and pro-British advocates of the status quo or liberalists. This group believed these proposed victims were obstructing its projected national reform. The plot was timed for before daybreak, July 5, 1940, but due to advance information we had received, the assassinations were prevented and all of the plotters were rounded up just when they were leaving their base of operation, fully armed with hand-grenades, revolvers, Japanese swords, and various other weapons. At this time Marquis KIDO was the Lord Keeper of the

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Privy Seal. The Metropolitan Police interrogated these would be assassins and found out that the target of their attempted assassinations included the following:

- (1) Prime Minister YONAI, as representative of the Government.
- (2) Mr. YUASA, Kurahai former Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal; Admiral OKADA, ex-Premier; Baron HARADA, Kumae; Count MAKINO, former Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal; Marquis KIDO, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal and Mr. MATSUDAIRA, Tsunoo, Minister of the Imperial Household, as representatives of the Senior Statesmen.
- (3) Mr. IKEDA, Seihin and two others as representatives of private industries.
- (4) Mr. MACHIDA, leader of the Minseitō Party and four others as representatives of the political parties.

Complete reports of the interrogations of the plotters were submitted to me which verified the above. The would be assassins were duly tried, convicted and sentenced to prison terms. Additional police protection for the abovementioned proposed victims was provided for a period of time.

3. While I was serving as Chief of Metropolitan Police, I was in charge of an investigation regarding a shooting affair which occurred against Baron HIRNUMA in August, 1941. It was perpetrated by a certain NISHIYAMA, Tadashi, a provincial

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member of the Makoto Musubi, one of the pro-German reformist groups, which advocated the urgent necessity for Japan to go to war promptly with America and Britain and to effect a southern advance as a sequel to the opening of hostilities between Germany and the Soviet Union in June, the same year. The would be assassins marked Baron HIRANUMA out as Senior Statesman opposed to war with America and Britain. He called on the Baron at his residence and fired upon the latter, who, however, fortunately escaped with a slight injury. NISHIYAMA was apprehended, tried, convicted and sentenced to penal servitude. Inasmuch as Prime Minister KONOYE was generally regarded as endeavoring hard to avoid war with America, an ominous atmosphere prevailed in the pro-German reformist groups in this country. Reports I received in my official capacity completely substantiated this. Marquis KIDO, then Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal as well as Prince KONOYE, Prime Minister was in danger of falling a victim to the rightist reformist groups' terroristic action as pro-American and pro-British Senior Statesmen close to the Throne. Accordingly, as precautionary measure, the police authorities protected the Marquis from personal danger for a prolonged period of time from the time of the shooting affair against Baron HIRANUMA to after the opening of hostilities between Japan and America, by increasing

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the police escort for him from 10 to 50, and it was gradually decreased after the beginning of 1942 to about 20. Additional police protection was also given Prime Minister KONOYE, Admiral OKADA, Count MATSUNO and Mr. IKEDA.

On this 6 day of Feb., 1947

At I.M.T.F.E

DEPONENT YAMAZAKI, Iwao (seal)

I, HOZUMI, Shigetaka, hereby certify that the above statement was sworn by the Depoent, who affixed his signature and seal thereto in the presence of this witness.

On the same date

At same place

Witness: (signed) HOZUMI, Shigetaka (seal)

OATH

In accordance with my conscience I swear to tell the whole truth withholding nothing and adding nothing.

/s/ YAMAZAKI, Iwao (seal)

極東國際軍事裁判所

亞米利加合衆國 其他

對

荒木貞夫 其他

宣誓供述者

供述者

山崎

殿

自分儀我口ニ行ハルル方式ニ從ヒ先ツ別紙ノ通り宣誓ヲ爲シタル上
次ノ如ク供述致シマシ

余、山崎嚴ハ宣誓ノ上左ノ通り陳述ス

一 余、山崎嚴ノ官歴ハ一九一九年（大正八年）ヨリ一九三九年（昭和十四年）迄内務省各部局ニ在職シ、其ノ間一九三九年（昭和十四年）一月ヨリ七月迄内務省警保局長ニ在職シ、又同年十二月ヨリ翌一九四〇年（昭和十六年）一月迄警視總監ニ在職セリ

一九四〇年（昭和十五年）十月ヨリ一九四五年（昭和二十年）ノ間内務次官ヲハジメ占領地ノ司政官等ニ在職シタリ

一九四五年（昭和二十年）八月内務大臣ニ親任セラレ同年十月退官セリ

二 内務省警保局長タリシ余ノ責務ハ全圖ニ於ケル治安維持デアリ、且事件

ヲ未然ニ防止シ又之ノ防止ノ爲ニ必要ナ措置ヲトルコト、又余ノ任務ノ

一部ナリ。カ、ル任務達成ノ爲民間ニ於ケル一般情勢ヲ常ニ知悉シ且該

團體ノ動向、目的ヲ諒解シアルコトガ必要ニシテ、余ハ余ノ部下ヨリカ

、ル内容ニ關スル情報ヲ常ニ入手シアリタリ

余ガ内務省警保局長ニ在職中一九四〇年（昭和十五年）七月所謂七・五

事件アリ

情報ニ依リ余ノ知レル處デハ同事件ハ前田虎雄及影山正治等ヲ指導者ト

スル三十餘名ノ右翼革新陣營ノ血盟の一團が「家革新」ヲ現ノ爲メ、之
ガ阻害者タル親英米の現狀維持者、又ハ自由主義者ト目サルル者ヲ一舉
ニ暗殺セント一九四〇年（昭和十五年）七月五日未明此ノ一團ガ手榴彈
拳銃、日本刀、其他多數ノ武器ヲ準備シ正ニ出發決行ニ移ラントセルヲ
入手セル情報ニ依リ探知シ未然檢査シタル事件ナリ。當時木戸侯ハ内大
臣タリ。警視廳ハ之等ノ暗殺事件ヲ取調ベソノ暗殺ノ目標ハ左ノ如クナ
ルコト判明セリ

1 政府代表トシテ米内首相

2 重臣代表トシテ湯淺前内府、岡田元首相、原田熊雄男、牧野元内府、

木戸内府及松平宮相

3 財閥代表トシテ池田成彬外二名

4 政黨代表トシテ町田民政黨總裁外四名

等ナリ

訊問調査ノ結果完全ナル報告ガ余ノ元ニ提出サレ而シテ上述ノ事ガ明確
トナリタリ。犯人等ハ十分ニ裁判サレ有罪トナリテ服罪セリ。上述ノ目
標タリシ人々ニ對シテハ一定期間懲罰ヲ附シタリ

三、余ガ警視總監ニ在職中余ノ責任下ニ一九四一年（昭和十六年）八月平沼
 男爵狙撃事件アリ。同事件ハ同年六月ノ「獨ソ開戦」ヲ契機トシテ此ノ
 際速カニ米英ト戦ヒ南方ニ進出スベキデアルト主張スル親獨的革新團體
 ノ一ナル「まことむすび」ノ地方會員「西山直」ガ米英ヘノ開戦ニ反對
 スルト目セラレタル平沼男爵暗殺セントシタル事件ナリ。彼ハ平沼男爵
 私邸ニ訪問シ男爵狙撃セルガ幸ニモ微傷ニテ済ミタリ。西山ハ裁判ノ結
 果有罪トナリ懲役トナリタリ。當時近衛首相ハ如何ニカンテ米門トノ戦
 争ヲ避ケントスル意圖ニアリタル如ク見ラレタル爲、親獨的革新陣營中
 ニハコノ種ノ險惡ナル空氣相當アリ。余ノ公職ニ於テ情報入手ニ依リテ
 コノ事ハ明白ナリキ。木戸大臣ニ聞シテモ近衛公ト近ク陛下側近ノ親英
 米派重臣トシテ彼等右翼陣營ヨリ襲撃セラレル危険性アリタル爲警察
 當局ニ於テハ右事件當時ヨリ對米開戦ニ至ル迄相當期間木戸侯ノ身邊警
 戒ヲ相當重シシ警察官除ヲ十名カラ五十名ニ増派セシメタリ。
 一九四二年（昭和十七年）初期ヨリ漸次減シ約二十名トセリ。
 尙近衛首相、岡田大將、牧野伯、池田氏等ニモ警衛ヲ増加セリ。

昭和二十二年（一九四七年）二月六日 於 東京

極東國際軍事裁判所

供 述 者 山 崎 殿

右ハ當立會人ノ面前ニテ宣誓シ且ツ署名捺印シタルコトヲ證明シマス

同 日 於 同 所

立 會 人 穂 積 重 威

良心ニ従ヒ眞實ヲ述ベ何事ヲモ隠秘セズ又何事ヲモ附加セザルコトヲ
誓フ

宣

言

書

(署名捺印)

山

崎

殿

ERRATA SHEET

The following corrections should be made on the Affidavit of
YAMAZAKI, Iwao;

Page 1 - Paragraph 1, Line 2 and 3,

"From January, 1939 to July, 1939."

should read

"From January, 1940 to July, 1940."

Line 4,

"From December, 1939 to October, 1940."

should read

"From December, 1940 to October, 1941."

Line 5,

"From October, 1940....."

should read

"From October, 1941....."

二				頁
六 六 四 三				行
(昭和十五年)	一 九 四 〇	一 九 四 〇	一 九 三 九	誤
(昭和十六年)	一 九 四 一	一 九 四 一	一 九 四 〇	正

正誤表

辯護團側文書二二六二